

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) ~~The machine according to claim 4~~

A panel sawing machine comprising:

a horizontal table to support at least one panel to be cut;

at least one movable device designed to move the panel along the table in at least one of a feed direction and in a direction opposite to the feed direction, in such a way as to feed a sawing device, said sawing device being designed to cut the panel into two or more smaller boards in a direction at right angles to the feed direction, the movable device comprising first drive means, second drive means and a plurality of pickup elements mounted on the movable device side-by-side to hold a rear edge of the panel in position while the panel is being sawn, wherein said at least one pickup element is provided by at least first and second pickup elements that of said plurality of pickup elements are both movable by said first drive means bi-directionally relative to the movable device laterally at right angles relative to said feed direction and that are both movable by said second drive means relative to the movable device in said feed direction and a direction opposite the feed direction.

6. (previously presented) The machine according to claim 5, wherein at least one of said first and second pickup elements is also movable up and down in a vertical direction (Z) relative to said movable device.

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

[go to next page]

11. (currently amended) ~~The machine according to claim 1, wherein the movable device forms part of a~~ A panel sawing machine comprising:

having a first lengthways cutting axis and a second crossways cutting axis that is transverse relative to said first cutting axis;

~~and wherein said at least one movable device comprises a first movable device for feeding associated panels to be cut toward said first cutting axis in a first feed direction;~~

and a second movable device devices for feeding associated panels toward said first cutting axis and said second cutting axis in a second feed direction , respectively,
~~wherein said first movable device comprises~~

a first plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side on said first movable device, wherein at least two of the first plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side thereon that are movable bi-directionally relative to said first movable device on an axis parallel to said first cutting axis and are also movable bi-directionally relative to said first movable device parallel to said first feed direction;

~~and wherein said second movable device comprises a second plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side on said second movable device, wherein at least two of the second plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side thereon that are movable bi-directionally relative to said second movable device on an axis parallel to said second cutting axis and are also movable bi-directionally relative to said second movable device parallel to said second feed direction.~~

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The machine according to claim 11, wherein ~~wherein~~ at least one of the first plurality of pickup elements ~~element mounted on the first movable device~~ is movable vertically up and down relative to said first movable device, and wherein at least one of the second plurality of pickup elements ~~element mounted on the second movable device~~ is movable vertically up and down relative to said second movable device.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

[go to next page]

17. (currently amended) A panel sawing machine comprising:

a sawing device that cuts in a direction at right angles to a feed direction;

a table adapted to support an associated panel to be cut by the sawing device;

at least one movable device that moves in the feed direction and in a direction opposite the feed direction so as to move an associated ~~the~~ panel along the table in at least one of the feed direction and in a direction opposite to the feed direction to feed the sawing device;

first and second drive means connected to said at least one movable device;

a plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side on said movable device to hold the panel in position while the panel is sawn, at least one of the pickup elements being movable bi-directionally by said first drive means independently of the other pickup elements relative to the movable device in a direction at right angles to the feed direction, and at least one of the pickup elements being movable by said second drive means in both the feed direction and the direction opposite to the feed direction relative to the movable device.

[go to next page]

18. (currently amended) A panel sawing machine comprising:

a sawing device that cuts in a direction transverse to a feed direction;

a table adapted to support ~~that supports an associated~~ panel to be cut by the sawing device;

at least one movable device that moves relative to the table in a feed direction and an opposite direction that is opposite to the feed direction;

a plurality of pickup elements mounted side by side on said movable device, said pickup elements adapted to grip the an associated panel supported on the table so that said panel moves with said movable device when said movable device moves in said feed direction and said opposite direction, at least one of said pickup elements movable relative to said movable device in both said feed direction and said opposite direction, and at least two of said pickup elements movable relative to the movable device bi-directionally perpendicular with respect to the feed direction.